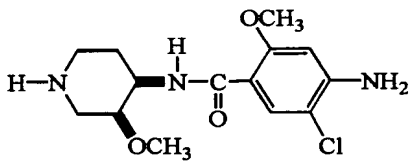
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 (original) 1. A process for preparing (+)-norcisapride base of formula



(cis)

;

characterized by

a) separating the enantiomers of cis-ethyl 4-(4-amino-5-chloro-2-methoxy-benzoylamino)-3-methoxy-1-piperidine carboxylate by liquid chromatography over a chiral stationary phase, and
b) isolating the fraction having a specific rotation $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ in methanol that is dextrorotatory, and
c) solvolysing said fraction to (+)-norcisapride.

Claim 2 (original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the chiral stationary phase is a cellulose or amylose polysaccharide.

Claim 3 (original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the chiral stationary phase is a cellulose or amylose polysaccharide.

Claim 4 (original) A process according to claim 1 wherein solvolysis comprises hydrolysis in a basic aqueous medium.

Claim 5 (amended) (+)-Norcisapride obtainable by a process of claim 1[to 4].

Claim 6 (original) A compound according to claim 5 containing at least 90 % by weight of the (+)-stereoisomer and 10 % by weight or less of the (-)-stereoisomer.

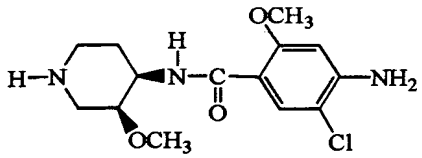
Claim 7 (original)A compound according to claim 5 containing more than 99 % by weight of the (+)-stereoisomer.

Claim 8 (original) (+)-Norcisapride according to claim 5 substantially free of its (-)-stereoisomer.

Claim 9 (original) (+)-Norcisapride having a specific rotation $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ in methanol that is dextrorotatory

Claim 10 (original) (+)-Norcisapride having a specific optical rotation $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ of about +5.60° (c = 1 % w/v in methanol).

Claim 11 (original) (+)-Norcisapride having the absolute configuration of (3S,4R)



(3S,4R)-*cis*-4-amino-5-chloro-2-methoxy-*N*-(3-methoxy-4-piperidinyl)benzamide.

Claim 12 (amended) A pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of a compound according to claim[s 5 to] 11.

Claim 13 (amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and as active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as described in claim[s 5 to] 12

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15. (amended) A method of treating gastro-intestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal associated with an overstimulation of the 5-HT_3-receptor activity which comprises administering to said warm-blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim[s 5 to] 12.

Claim 16. (amended) A method of treating gastro-intestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal associated with an understimulation of the 5-HT_4-receptor activity which comprises administering to said warm-blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim[s 5 to] 12.

Claim 17. (amended) A method of treating gastro-intestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal which are simultaneously associated with an understimulation of the 5-HT_4-receptor activity and an overstimulation of the 5-HT_3-receptor activity which comprises administering to said warm-blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim[s 5 to] 12.

Claim 18 (amended) A method according to claim[s] 14 [to 17] while avoiding central nervous system effects.

Claim 19 (Amended) A method of treating 5-HT_3-mediated disorders while substantially avoiding central nervous system effects in a warm-blooded animal which comprises administering to said warm-blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim[s 5 to] 12.

Claim 20 (original) A method of claim 19 wherein the disorder is irritable bowel syndrome or diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome.

Claim 21 (original) A method of claim 19 wherein the disorder is cytotoxic drug emesis or radiation induced emesis.

Claim 22. (amended) A method of treating eating disorders in a warm-blooded animal which comprises administering to said warm-blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim[s 5 to] 12.

Claim 23. (original) A method of claim 22 wherein the eating disorder is anorexia.

Claim 24. (amended) A method of accelerating intestinal cleansing in a warm-blooded animal which comprises administering to said warm-blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim[s 5 to] 12 and a laxative.

Claim 25. (original) A method of claim 24 wherein the laxative is an osmotic agent.

Claim 26 (original) A method of claim 24 wherein the laxative is a polyethylene glycol (PEG)-electrolyte solution.

Claim 27. (amended) A method of treating 5-HT_4-mediated disorders while substantially avoiding central nervous system effects in a warm-blooded animal which comprises administering to said warm-blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim[s 5 to] 12.

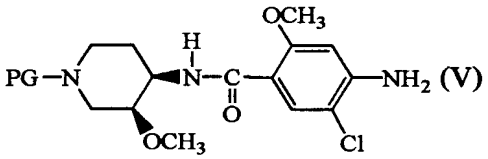
Claim 28. (original) A method of claim 27 wherein the disorder is hampered or impaired gastrointestinal transit.

Claim 29. (original) A method of claim 27 wherein the disorder is hampered or impaired gastric emptying.

Claim 30 (original) A method of claim 27 wherein the disorder is gastro-oesophageal reflux.

Claim 31 (original) A method of claim 27 wherein the disorder is dyspepsia or gastroparesis.

Claim 32 (original) Compounds of formula (V) wherein the piperidine ring has the absolute configuration (3S,4R) and PG is methyloxycarbonyl, ethyloxycarbonyl, *tert*-butyloxycarbonyl or phenylmethyl.



Claim 33. (New) A method of accelerating intestinal cleansing in a warm blooded animal which comprises administering to said warm blooded animal a therapeutically effective amount of (+)-norcisapride and a laxative.

Claim 34. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the laxative is an osmatic agent.

Claim 35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein the osmatic agent is a polyethylene glycol-electrolyte solution.

Claim 36. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the laxative is a saline solution.

Claim 37. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein the saline solution contains magnesium sulfate.